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CENTER FOR THE AMERICAN WOMAN AND POLITICS
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fact sheet
Congress

WOMEN IN THE U.S. CONGRESS

In 1986, women hold a total of **25** seats in the U.S. Congress--**2** in the Senate and **23** in the House of Representatives. This is the largest number of women ever to serve in Congress, one more than served in 1983-84. Women hold **4.7%** of the **535** total available seats--**2.0%** of Senate seats and **5.3%** of House seats.

The two women currently serving in the U.S. Senate are **Nancy Landon Kassebaum** (R-KS), elected in 1978 and re-elected in 1984, and **Paula Hawkins** (R-FL), elected in 1980. They are the first two women ever elected to the Senate without having first filled unexpired Congressional terms.

The women in the House of Representatives include **12** Democrats and **11** Republicans. They are:

Helen Delich Bentley, R-MD
Corinne (Lindy) Boggs, D-LA
Barbara Boxer, D-CA
Sala Burton, D-CA
Beverly Byron, D-MD
Cardiss Collins, D-IL
Bobbi Fiedler, R-CA
Marjorie Holt, R-MD
Nancy Johnson, R-CT
Marcy Kaptur, D-OH
Barbara Bailey Kennelly, D-CT
Marilyn Lloyd, D-TN
Cathy Long, D-LA
Lynn Martin, R-IL
Jan Meyers, R-KS
Barbara Mikulski, D-MD
Mary Rose Oakar, D-OH
Margaret Roukema, R-NJ
Claudine Schneider, R-RI
Patricia Schroeder, D-CO
Virginia Smith, R-NE
Olympia Snowe, R-ME
Barbara Vucanovich, R-NV

A total of **119** women have served in the U.S. Congress to date, including **15** in the Senate and **105** in the House. Only **one** woman--**Margaret Chase Smith** (R-ME)--served in both the House and the Senate. After filling her deceased husband's seat in the House, she was later elected to the Senate, where she served four terms.

The first woman in the House of Representatives was **Jeannette Rankin** (R-MT), who served from 1917 to 1919 and again from 1941 to 1942. The first woman to serve in the Senate was **Rebecca Latimer Felton** (D-GA), who was appointed in 1922 to complete the term of a senator who died in office. Senator Felton was a member of the Senate for only one day before giving up her seat to the man who was elected to fill the vacancy.

New York has had more women in its congressional delegation than any other state--a total of twelve to date, all in the House. **Illinois** and **California** have each sent eight women to the House; **Maryland** has had six and **Connecticut** and **New Jersey** have had five women in their House delegations. Four states--**Alabama, Louisiana, Nebraska,** and **South Dakota**--have been represented twice by women in the Senate. Ten states have never sent a woman to either the House or the Senate.

The first black woman to serve in the Congress was **Shirley Chisholm** (D-NY), elected in 1968. Since that time, four other black women, all Democrats, have served in the House. They are **Yvonne Brathwaite Burke** (D-CA) and **Barbara Jordan** (D-TX), both of whom served from 1973-1979, **Katie Hall** (D-IN), who served from 1983-1985 and **Cardiss Collins** (D-IL), elected in 1973, who is still in Congress. Only one Asian-American woman, **Patsy Takemoto Mink** (D-HI), ever served in the House. No other women of color have served in either house of Congress.

Seven women have chaired congressional committees--Senator **Hattie Caraway** (D-AR), and Representatives **Martha Griffiths** (D-MI), **Mae Nolan** (R-CA), **Mary Norton** (D-NJ), **Caroline O'Day** (D-NY), **Edith Rogers** (R-MA), and **Leonor Sullivan** (D-MO). No woman has ever been Speaker of the House or Majority or Minority Leader of the Senate.

In 1977, the Congresswomen's Caucus was established to support legislation affecting women and to monitor federal government programs that influence the opportunities available to women. At first, the Caucus was limited to women elected to Congress, but in 1981 it changed its name to the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues and admitted male members of Congress as well. The Women's Research and Education Institute was established by the Caucus to provide research, educational and technical support.

Data from the National Information Bank on Women in Public Office, a service of the Center for the American Woman and Politics; additional information drawn from Women in the United States Congress, Barbara L. Schwemle, Congressional Research Service, April 1983. NIB is partially supported by the Helena Rubinstein Foundation.

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WOMEN IN THE U.S. CONGRESS 1917-1985*

CONGRESS	DATES	# OF WOMEN IN HOUSE	# OF WOMEN IN SENATE	TOTAL # OF WOMEN
65th	1917-1919	1	0	1
66th	1919-1921	0	0	0
67th	1921-1923	3	1	4
68th	1923-1925	1	0	1
69th	1925-1927	3	0	3
70th	1927-1929	5	0	5
71st	1929-1931	9	0	9
72nd	1931-1933	7	1	8
73rd	1933-1934**	7	1	8
74th	1935-1936	6	2	8
75th	1937-1938	6	3	9
76th	1939-1941	8	1	9
77th	1941-1942	9	1	10
78th	1943-1944	8	1	9
79th	1945-1946	11	0	11
80th	1947-1948	7	1	8
81st	1949-1951	9	1	10
82nd	1951-1952	10	1	11
83rd	1953-1954	12	3	15
84th	1955-1956	17	1	18
85th	1957-1958	15	1	16
86th	1959-1960	17	2	19
87th	1961-1962	18	2	20
88th	1963-1964	12	2	14
89th	1965-1966	11	2	13
90th	1967-1968	11	1	12
91st	1969-1971	10	1	11
92nd	1971-1972	13	2	15
93rd	1973-1974	16	0	16
94th	1975-1976	19	0	19
95th	1977-1978	18	2	20
96th	1979-1980	16	1	17
97th	1981-1982	21	2	23
98th	1983-1984	22	2	24
99th	1985-1986	23	2	25

*Number shown is maximum number of women who served in that Congress. Not all served full terms; some were elected or appointed to fill out others' unexpired terms.
**Beginning with the 73rd Congress, terminating date listed is date that Congress adjourned.

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WOMEN IN STATE LEGISATURES 1986

Women hold 14.8% of all seats in state legislatures in 1986; as a result of the 1985 elections, there are 1,101 female state legislators out of a total of 7,461 legislators. Since 1969, the number of women serving in state legislatures has more than tripled.

Year	Women Legislators	% of Total Legislators
1969	301	4.0
1971	344	4.5
1973	424	5.6
1975	604	8.0
1977	688	9.1
1979	770	10.3
1981	908	12.1
1983	991	13.3
1985	1,103	14.8
1986	1,101	14.8

Women hold 9.9% of all state senate seats (197 out of 1,995) and 16.5% of state house or assembly seats (904 out of 5,466).

54.1% of all women legislators are Democrats and 45.1% are Republicans. 55.8% of women in state senates and 53.7% of women in state houses or assemblies are Democrats. 40.1% of the women senators and 46.2% of the assemblywomen and women representatives are Republicans. (In Nebraska state legislators are elected on a non-partisan basis.)

The ten states with the highest percentages of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
New Hampshire	33.0	Maine	23.7
Vermont	26.1	Connecticut	21.9
Wyoming	25.6	Arizona	20.0
Colorado	24.0	Oregon	20.0
Washington	23.8	Florida	19.4

The ten states with the lowest percentages of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
Mississippi	2.3	Kentucky	6.5
Louisiana	3.5	Utah	6.7
Pennsylvania	5.1	Virginia	7.1
South Carolina	5.8	Arkansas	7.4
Alabama	6.4	Tennessee	8.3

Every state has at least three women in its legislature, but three states (Louisiana, Mississippi, and Virginia) have no women in the state senate.

Black women constitute 6.8% (75 out of 1,101) of women in state legislatures; 11 Black women serve in senates and 64 serve in lower houses. Hispanic women constitute 1.2% (13 out of 1,101) of women legislators; 2 Hispanic women serve in senates and 11 serve in lower houses.

Sources of information include: The National Information Bank on Women in Public Office, a project of the Center for the American Woman and Politics; the National Women's Political Caucus; the Democratic National Committee -- Hispanic Affairs Division; the Joint Center for Political Studies.

April 1986

STATE	STATE SENATE D	R	TOTAL WOMEN/ TOTAL SENATE	STATE HOUSE D	R		TOTAL WOMEN/ TOTAL HOUSE	% OF WOMEN OVERALL
AL	1	1	2/35	7	0		7/105	6.4
AK	1	3	4/20	4	3		7/40	18.3
AZ	1	3	4/30	5	9		14/60	20.0
AR	1	0	1/35	8	1		9/100	7.4
CA	2	2	4/40	7	4		11/80	12.5
CO	2	3	5/35	6	13		19/65	24.0
CT	2	3	5/36	12	24		36/151	21.9
DE	2	1	3/21	3	4		7/41	16.1
FL	7	2	9/40	11	11		22/120	19.4
GA	2	0	2/56	17	4		21/180	9.7
HI	4	2	6/25	4	4		8/51	18.4
ID	5	2	7/42	4	13		17/84	19.1
IL	4	6	10/59	8	12		20/118	16.9
IN	3	3	6/50	7	6		13/100	12.7
IA	1	2	3/50	13	6		19/100	14.7
KS	2	3	5/40	11	14		25/125	18.2
KY	2	0	2/38	5	2		7/100	6.5
LA	0	0	0/39	5	0		5/105	3.5
ME	6	3	9/35	17	18		35/151	23.7
MD	3	0	3/47	29	4		33/141	19.2
MA	4	1	5/40	20	8		28/160	16.5
MI	1	1	2/38	9	5		14/110	10.8
MN	5	4	9/67	12	8		20/134	14.4
MS	0	0	0/52	4	0		4/122	2.3
MO	1	1	2/34	17	7		24/163	13.2
MT	4	1	5/50	13	4		17/100	14.7
NE	nonpartisan		8/49	unicameral				16.3
NV	1	2	3/21	3	4		7/42	15.9
NH	0	7	7/24	44	89		133/400	33.0
NJ	2	1	3/40	2	7		9/80	10.0
NM	0	2	2/42	1	10		11/70	11.6
NY	4	1	5/61	16	2		18/150	10.9
NC	4	0	4/50	9	7		16/120	11.8
ND	3	0	3/53	6	9		15/106	11.9
OH	1	1	2/33	7	3		10/99	9.1
OK	2	1	3/48	6	4		10/101	8.7
OR	4	2	6/30	8	4		12/60	20.0
PA	2	0	2/50	3	8		11/203	5.1
RI	3	5	8/50	11	4		15/100	15.3
SC	2	0	2/46	7	1		8/124	5.8
SD	2	2	4/35	1	10		11/70	14.3
TN	1	0	1/33	4	6		10/99	8.3
TX	0	1	1/31	10	5		15/150	8.8
UT	0	1	1/29	2	4		6/75	6.7
VT	4	0	4/30	23	20		43/150	26.1
VA	0	0	0/40	9	0	1*	10/100	7.1
WA	4	3	7/49	16	12		28/98	23.8
WV	2	1	3/34	16	4		20/100	17.2
WI	1	2	3/33	12	10		22/99	18.9
WY	2	0	2/30	11	11		22/64	25.6
TOTALS	110 (8 nonpartisan)	79	197/1,995	485	418		904/5,466	14.8

*Independent

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WOMEN IN STATE GOVERNMENT

In January 1986, 42 women serve in top statewide elective offices in 29 states, holding 14.2% of all such positions. 1,101 women hold seats in state legislatures (14.8%). 152 women were appointed to state cabinets in 1983 (15.1%).

Women in Statewide Elective Office

In addition to two women governors and five women lieutenant governors, 35 women are serving in statewide elective executive offices. Among these are the first women ever to be elected Attorneys General in any states. The number of women serving in top statewide positions reflects an increase over early 1984 when women held 37 such positions.[1]

GOVERNORS

Two women currently serve as governors: **Martha Layne Collins**, a Kentucky Democrat elected in 1983, and **Madeleine Kunin**, a Vermont Democrat elected in 1984. They bring to seven the total number of women ever to serve as governors; all seven have been Democrats.

The first woman governor was Nellie Tayloe Ross of Wyoming, elected in 1925 to replace her deceased husband. Ella Grasso of Connecticut was the first woman elected governor in her own right. She was elected in 1974 and again in 1978. The other women governors were Miriam "Ma" Ferguson of Texas (who served from 1925 to 1926 and again from 1933 to 1934), Lurleen Wallace of Alabama (who served from 1967 to 1969), and Dixy Lee Ray of Washington (who served from 1977 to 1980). Ferguson and Wallace were surrogates for their husbands who were ineligible to succeed themselves; Ray was elected in her own right.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

Five women serve as lieutenant governors in 1986. They are **Nancy Dick** (D-CO), **Martha Griffiths** (D-MI) and **Marlene Johnson** (DFL-MN), elected in 1982, -- as well as **Harriett Woods** (D-MO) and **Ruth Meiers** (D-ND), elected in 1984.

The first woman to be elected as lieutenant governor was Consuelo Bailey of Vermont, elected in 1955. Bailey, a Republican, had previously served as Speaker of the state House of Representatives; thus, as lieutenant governor, she became the only woman in the country ever to have presided over both chambers of a state legislature.

OTHER STATEWIDE ELECTIVE POSITIONS

Attorney General
RI Arlene Violet (R)
VA Mary Sue Terry (D)

Corporation Commissioner
AZ Marcia Weeks (D)

Labor Commissioner
OR Mary Roberts (D)

Secretary of State[2]
AZ Rose Mofford (D)
CA March Fong Eu (D)
CO Natalie Meyer (R)
CT Julia Tashjian (D)
IA Mary Jane Odell (R)
MN Joan Anderson Growe(DFL)
NM Clara Jones (D)
OR Barbara Roberts (D)
RI Susan Farmer (R)
SD Alice Kundert (R)
WY Thyra Thompson (R)

State Auditor
AL Jan Cook (D)
AR Julia Hughes Jones (D)
KY Mary Ann Tobin (D)
MO Margaret Kelly (R)[3]
MT Andrea Hemstead (R)

State Treasurer
AL Annie Laurie Gunter (D)
AR Jimmie Lou Fisher (D)
DE Janet Rzewnicki (R)
ID Marjorie Ruth Moon (D)
KS Joan Finney (D)
KY Frances Jones Mills (D)
LA Mary Evelyn Parker (D)
NE Kay Orr (R)
NV Patty Cafferata (R)
OH Mary Ellen Withrow (D)
TX Ann Richards (D)

Superintendent of Public Instruction
AZ Carolyn Warner (D)
KY Alice McDonald (D)
WY Lynn Simons (D)

Public Service Commissioner
TN Jane Eskind (D)

Women in State Legislatures

In 1986 women hold 14.8% of all seats in state legislatures, 1,101 out of a total of 7,461 legislators. Since 1969, the number of women serving in state legislatures has more than tripled.

WOMEN STATE LEGISLATORS 1969-1985

Year	Women Legislators	% of Total Legislators
1969	301	4.0
1971	344	4.5
1973	424	5.6
1975	604	8.0
1977	688	9.1
1979	770	10.3
1981	908	12.1
1983	991	13.3
1984	996	13.4
1985	1,103	14.8
1986	**1,101**	**14.8**

Women hold 9.9% of all state senate seats (197 out of 1,995) and 16.5% of state house or assembly seats (904 out of 5,466). 54.1% of all women legislators are Democrats and 45.1% are Republicans. (A few women are independents or nonpartisan.)

Black women constitute 6.8% (75 out of 1,101) of women in state legislatures, 11 in senates and 64 in lower houses. Hispanic women constitute 1.2% (13 out of 1,101) of women state legislators, two in senates and eleven in lower houses.

The ten states with the highest percentages of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
New Hampshire	33.0	Maine	23.7
Vermont	26.1	Connecticut	21.9
Wyoming	25.6	Arizona	20.0
Colorado	24.0	Oregon	20.0
Washington	23.8	Florida	19.4

Women Appointed to State Cabinet Positions

In 1983, women were selected to fill 15.1% of appointed positions in governors' cabinets, 152 women out of a total of 1,009 appointed state cabinet officials.[4] This number includes cabinet level appointees who head state agencies or serve on governors' staffs. Of the 152 women serving in appointed state cabinet positions, one-fifth (20%) are serving in the field of health and social services. Women held a smaller proportion, 12.8% of all appointed state cabinet-level positions in 1981.

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[1]These numbers do not include women elected to the judiciary or women appointed to state cabinet-level positions.

[2]In addition to these elected secretaries of state, six states -- Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia -- have appointed women secretaries of state.

[3]Kelly was appointed to fill out the term of the man who was elected to this post.

[4]Data were collected in the spring of 1983 by writing to every governor requesting a list of members of his cabinet. Figures include members of governors' staffs with cabinet status. Figures do not include elected cabinet officials. Information from Georgia was not available. The governors of Indiana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Carolina and Wyoming do not appoint cabinet members.

The Center for the American Woman and Politics maintains the National Information Bank on Women in Public Office (NIB) as part of its information services program. These data are the latest available in each area. Other sources include Martin Gruberg's Women in American Politics (Oshkosh, Wisconsin: Academic Press, 1968); the National Women's Education Fund; the Democratic National Committee -- Hispanic Affairs Division; and the Joint Center for Political Studies.

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WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICE

In 1986, more women are serving in Congress than ever before. Two states have women governors. The number of women in state legislatures is more than three times larger than it was fifteen years ago. But women still hold only a small minority of elective offices; at no level of office do women hold more than 15% of the available positions. The total number of women in elective offices in 1986 is estimated to exceed 18,000.*

U.S. CONGRESS

Women hold 4.7% of the 535 seats in the U.S. Congress in 1986. Two women hold seats in the **U.S. Senate** -- **Paula Hawkins** (R) of Florida and **Nancy Landon Kassebaum** (R) of Kansas.

Twenty-three women serve in the **U.S. House of Representatives.** Twelve are Democrats; eleven are Republicans. They represent fourteen states:

California	**Barbara Boxer (D), Sala Burton (D), Bobbi Fiedler (R)**
Colorado	**Patricia Schroeder (D)**
Connecticut	**Nancy R. Johnson (R), Barbara B. Kennelly (D)**
Illinois	**Cardiss Collins (D), Lynn Martin (R)**
Kansas	**Jan Meyers (R)**
Louisiana	**Corinne (Lindy) Boggs (D), Cathy Long (D)**
Maine	**Olympia Snowe (R)**
Maryland	**Helen Delich Bentley (R), Beverly Byron (D), Marjorie S. Holt (R), Barbara Mikulski (D)**
Nebraska	**Virginia Smith (R)**
Nevada	**Barbara Vucanovich (R)**
New Jersey	**Marge Roukema (R)**
Ohio	**Marcy Kaptur (D), Mary Rose Oakar (D)**
Rhode Island	**Claudine Schneider (R)**
Tennessee	**Marilyn Lloyd (D)**

The first woman to serve in the U.S. Congress was Jeanette Rankin, Republican of Montana, elected in 1917 and once again in 1941.

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE OFFICE

Forty-two women hold top statewide elective positions in 1986.** They hold 14.2% of all such positions.

Two women serve as **governors:** **Martha Layne Collins**, a Kentucky Democrat elected in 1983, and **Madeleine Kunin**, a Vermont Democrat elected in 1984.

Five women serve as **lieutenant governors** in 1986. They are **Nancy Dick** (D-CO), **Martha Griffiths** (D-MI), **Marlene Johnson** (DFL-MN), **Harriett Woods** (D-MO) and **Ruth Meiers** (D-ND).

Arlene Violet (R-RI), elected in 1984, was the first woman elected **attorney general** in any state. **Mary Sue Terry** (D-VA) was elected attorney general of Virginia in 1985.

Eleven women serve as elected **secretaries of state** in Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

Women hold **state treasurer** positions in eleven states: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, and Texas.

Five states, Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, and Montana, have women state **auditors.** In Arizona, Kentucky, and Wyoming, women serve as **superintendents of public instruction.** In Arizona, a woman serves as **corporation commissioner.** The **labor commissioner** in Oregon and a **public service commissioner** in Tennessee are women.

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* Offices included in these figures are: U.S. Congress, statewide elective offices, state legislatures, county governing boards, mayoralities, and municipal and township governing boards.

** These numbers do not include women elected to the judiciary or women appointed to state cabinet-level positions.

The Center for the American Woman and Politics maintains the National Information Bank on Women in Public Office (NIB) as part of its information services program. These data are the latest available in each area. Other sources include Martin Gruberg's Women in American Politics (Oshkosh, Wisconsin: Academia Press, 1968); and the National Women's Poltical Caucus.

STATE LEGISLATURES

In 1986, 1,101 (14.8%) of state legislators are women. The number of women serving in state legislatures has more than tripled since 1969, when 301 or 4% of state legislators were women.

The ten states with the highest percentages of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
New Hampshire	33.0	Maine	23.7
Vermont	26.1	Connecticut	21.9
Wyoming	25.6	Arizona	20.0
Colorado	24.0	Florida	20.0
Washington	23.8	Oregon	19.4

COUNTY GOVERNING BOARDS

1,476 women held seats on county governing boards in 1984, making up 8% of the total of 18,379 commissioners across the country.* Between 1975 and 1984, the number of women at the county governing board level more than doubled, rising from 456 or 3% in 1975.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

In November of 1985, among the 100 largest cities in the U.S., four had women mayors: Houston, TX (**Kathy Whitmire**); Sacramento, CA (**Anne Rudin**); San Francisco, CA (**Dianne Feinstein**); and Toledo, OH (**Donna Owens**).

In 1985, in the states for which data are available, 14,672 women held elective positions at the municipal and township level. The percentage of women holding municipal and township offices more than tripled from 1975 to 1985, rising from 4% to 14%.**

PERCENTAGES OF WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICES

Level of Office	1975	1977	1979	1981	1983	1986
U.S. Congress	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	5%
Statewide Elective	10%	8%	11%	11%	13%	14%
State Legislatures	8%	9%	10%	12%	13%	15%
County Governing Boards	3%	4%	5%	6%	8%	8% (1984)*
Mayors & Municipal/Township Governing Boards	4%	8%	10%	10%	NA***	14% (1985)**

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* Data for 1986 are not yet available.

** States for which data are not available include: IL, IN, KY, MO, PA, WI.

*** CAWP updates municipal figures only every four years.

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WOMEN IN MUNICIPAL OFFICE

In 1985, in the states for which data are available,[1] women comprised 14.3% of mayors and municipal council members. There were 14,672 women elected to these posts out of a total of 102,329 officials. This represents a 260% increase over 1975, when women held only 4,080 such positions.

The highest percentages of women elected to municipal office were found in the District of Columbia (50%) and Hawaii (30%), each of which has only one incorporated municipality.[2] Of the states with a substantial number of available positions, Michigan ranked highest with 27.5% women among its elected municipal officials.[3]

After the District of Columbia and Hawaii, the ten states with the highest proportions of women in municipal office (mayors and council members combined) were:

Michigan	27.5%	Wyoming	17.8%
Alaska	23.1%	California	17.8%
Oregon	22.2%	Arizona	17.6%
Washington	19.3%	Delaware	17.5%
Connecticut	18.7%	Ohio	16.5%

Five of these states rank among the top ten in the proportion of women in their state legislatures, while four rank among the top ten in the proportion of women on county governing boards.[4]

State	% of Women State Legislators	Rank	State	% of Women on County Governing Boards	Rank
WY	25.6	3	AK	36.5	1
WA	23.8	5	HI	24.0	2
CT	21.9	7	CA	21.6	3
AZ	20.0	8	AZ	20.9	4
OR	20.0	9			

According to the Joint Center for Political Studies, 35 black women nationwide were mayors in 1985, constituting 12.2% of all black mayors. Black women held 410 municipal council seats in 1985, 18.7% of all seats held by black officials. This is more than four times the 1975 figure of 4%. However, black elected municipal officials hold only a tiny proportion of all municipal offices, so black women constitute less than 1% of all elected municipal positions.[5]

As of November 30, 1985, 85 women were mayors of cities with populations over 30,000 (almost 10% of all such mayors). As of mid-1986, five of the 100 largest cities in the nation had women mayors: Houston, TX (Kathy Whitmire, D); Sacramento, CA (Anne Rudin, D); San Diego, CA (Maureen F. O'Connor, D); San Francisco, CA (Dianne Feinstein, D); and Toledo, OH (Donna Owens, R).

Other cities among the 100 largest which have elected women mayors include:

Austin, TX	Carole McClellan (D)	1977-1983
Chicago, IL	Jane Byrne (D)	1979-1983
Hartford, CT	Ann Uccello (R)	1967-1971
Honolulu, HI	Eileen Anderson (D)	1981-1985
Huntington Beach, CA	Norma B. Gibbs (R)	1975-1976
	Ruth Bailey (R)	1984-1985
Lincoln, NE	Helen Boosalis (D)	1975-1983
Long Beach, CA	Eunice Sato (R)	1980-1982
Oklahoma City, OK	Patience Latting (D)	1971-1983
Phoenix, AZ	Margaret Hance (R)	1974-76,78-80
Portland, OR	Dorothy Lee (R)	1949-1952
St. Petersburg, FL	Corinne Freeman (R)	1978-1985
San Antonio, TX	Lila Cockrell (D)	1975-1981
San Jose, CA	Janet Gray Hayes (D)	1974-1982
Worcester, MA	Sara Robertson (D)	1982-1983

The first woman mayor in the United States was Susanna Salter of Argonia, KS, elected in 1887. Seattle, WA, was the first major city to elect a woman mayor; Bertha K. Landes, elected in 1926 after serving as president of the city council and acting mayor, launched a vigorous campaign against bootlegging as one of her first official acts. The largest U.S. city yet to have a female mayor is Chicago, IL, where Jane Byrne (D) served from 1979-1983.

During 1981 and 1982, Mayor Helen Boosalis of Lincoln, NE was president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. She was the first woman to preside over that organization, which includes the mayors of most U.S. cities with populations over 30,000.

Loretta Glickman was chosen as mayor of Pasadena, CA in 1982. She was the first black woman to head a city with a population over 100,000.

Among the 25 women serving in the U.S. Congress in 1986 (two in the Senate and 23 in the House) four were on municipal councils before reaching their current positions. They are: Barbara Kennelly (D-CT); Jan Meyers (R-KS); Barbara Mikulski (D-MD); and Mary Rose Oakar (D-OH).

Data from a 1981 Center for the American Woman and Politics survey of women in elected office show that:

- Women mayors and council members are most frequently between the ages of 40 and 59.
- More than half of all women mayors and council members hold jobs outside of the home while in office.
- Most women mayors and council members who list occupations outside the home are in professional/technical or clerical/secretarial fields. More than 10% of the women municipal officials are elementary or secondary school teachers, by far the most common single occupation listed by the women.
- More than half of all women mayors and council members have had at least some college education.
- More than 3/4 of all women mayors and council members are currently married, and of those, almost all report that their husbands are supportive of their political careers.
- Fewer than half of all women mayors and council members have children younger than 12 years old.

NOTES

[1]Complete data are not available for the following states: IL; IN; KY; MO; PA; WI.

[2]Other states with fewer than 100 incorporated municipalities include: NV, 17; RI, 39; DE, 56; AZ, 76; WY, 91; NM, 96.

[3]Michigan is the only state in which clerks and treasurers are included in these figures. They are elected ex officio to the councils and vote on policy matters before those bodies.

[4]There is no county commissioner equivalent in CT, VT, or RI.

[5]Because different data collection methods are used and different states are included in CAWP and Joint Center figures, it is not possible to calculate the percentage of all female municipal officials who are black.

Sources: National Information Bank on Women in Public Office, a project of the Information Services Program of the Center for the American Woman and Politics. Also: CAWP research on "Bringing More Women into Public Office," conducted under a grant from the Charles H. Revson Foundation; U.S. Census Bureau; state and local directories; Joint Center for Political Studies; National Women's Political Caucus; U.S. Conference of Mayors; Women in American Politics by Martin Gruberg (Academia Press, Oshkosh, WI, 1968).

Further technical information on this data is available from CAWP.

State	Number of Women Mayors and Municipal Council Members		Percentage of Women (Rank Among States)		Percentage Increase from 1975 to 1985
	1975	1985	1985		
AL	85	281	11.0	(33)	230
AK	35	233	23.1	(2)	566
AZ	39	87	17.6	(8)	123
AR	160	365	11.9	(28)	128
CA	220	465	17.8	(7)	111
CO	170	315	16.5	(11)	85
CT	130	240	18.7	(5)	85
DE	22	57	17.5	(9)	159
DC	3	7	50.0	(*)	*
FL	174	311	13.3	(19)	19
GA	77	251	7.8	(40)	226
HI	1	3	30.0	(*)	*
ID	45	141	13.2	(21)	213
IL	----------	----------	------- NA	------	----------
IN	----------	----------	------- NA	------	----------
IA	304	732	12.9	(22)	141
KS	165	445	11.9	(29)	170
KY	----------	----------	------- NA	------	----------
LA	65	183	11.7	(30)	182
ME	87	243	10.4	(36)	179
MD	59	133	15.2	(14)	125
MA	48	217	11.3	(32)	352
MI	*	2,779	27.5	(1)	*
MN	227	542	12.8	(25)	139
MS	82	176	10.5	(35)	115
MO	----------	----------	------- NA	------	----------
MT	57	110	14.4	(15)	93
NE	83	241	7.6	(41)	190
NV	2	15	16.1	(13)	*
NH	39	113	10.7	(34)	190
NJ	213	451	13.2	(20)	112
NM	33	86	16.3	(12)	161
NY	*	797	14.4	(17)	*
NC	141	337	12.2	(26)	139
ND	69	174	8.5	(39)	152
OH	*	1,129	16.5	(10)	*
OK	92	312	10.2	(37)	239
OR	175	344	22.2	(3)	97
PA	----------	----------	------- NA	------	----------
RI	21	30	12.8	(24)	43
SC	72	184	12.2	(27)	156
SD	50	149	8.9	(38)	198
TN	50	144	7.1	(42)	188
TX	277	786	12.8	(23)	184
UT	40	137	11.5	(31)	243
VT	44	87	6.3	(43)	98
VA	117	211	13.3	(18)	80
WA	153	341	19.3	(4)	123
WV	120	202	13.6	(16)	68
WI	----------	----------	------- NA	------	----------
WY	34	86	17.8	(6)	153
NATIONAL	**4,080**	**14,672**	**14.3**		**260%**

*N is too small or 1975 and 1985 data are based on different assumptions so comparisons are invalid.

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fact sheet

CENTER FOR THE AMERICAN WOMAN AND POLITICS
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WOMEN APPOINTED TO STATE CABINETS 1986

In mid-1986, women held 17.9% of appointed positions in governors' cabinets; out of a total of 845 appointed state cabinet officials, 151 were women.[1] This figure represents a substantial increase from 1981, when women were 12.8% of all state cabinet appointees, and 1983, when women held 15.1% of such positions.

Of the 151 women in appointed state cabinet positions, 26 served in the area of health and social services, a field which also had the highest concentration of women in 1983. The number of women in such posts was more than twice that in any other area.

Functional Area of Appointment	Percentage Distribution of State Cabinet Positions Held by Women
Health/Social Services	17.2
Government Services/Government Administration	7.9
Labor/Industrial Relations/Employment Security	7.3
Finance/Budget/Taxation/Revenue	7.3
Community Affairs/Planning/Housing	5.3
Environmental Protection/Natural Resources	5.3
Education	5.3
Aging	4.6
Human Rights/Civil Rights/Women's Rights	4.6
State Personnel	4.6
Governor's Staff	4.0
Tourism/Recreation/Culture	3.3
Licensing/Regulation	2.6
Banking/Financial Institutions	2.6
Economic Development/Commerce	2.6
Energy/Utility Regulation	2.6
State	2.0
Transportation	2.0
Other	8.6
Total	100%[2]

Louisiana had the greatest proportion of women in its state cabinet; Governor Edwin Edwards (D) appointed 6 women to his 14 member cabinet, or 42.9%. In addition to Louisiana, 12 other states had 20% or more women in their cabinets. They are:[3]

Vermont	(D)	40.0	Massachusetts	(D)	27.3
Virginia	(D)	38.9	Minnesota	(D)	26.9
Arizona	(D)	35.0	North Carolina	(R)	23.1
New Mexico	(D)	31.3	Kentucky	(D)	22.2
Maryland	(D)	30.8	California	(R)	20.0
New Jersey	(R)	28.6	Washington	(D)	20.0

The two states with women governors, **Vermont** and **Kentucky**, ranked second and eleventh respectively in the proportions of women in their cabinets.

Every state with an appointed cabinet had at least one woman in that body. The states with the lowest proportions of women in their cabinets were:

Idaho	(D)	5.3	Alabama	(D)	11.1
Missouri	(R)	6.7	Delaware	(R)	11.1
Montana	(D)	6.7	Colorado	(D)	11.8
Oklahoma	(D)	6.7	Hawaii	(D)	12.5
Utah	(R)	8.0	Pennsylvania	(R)	12.5

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[1] Data were collected in the summer of 1986 by writing to every governor to request a list of cabinet members. Figures include members of governors' staffs with cabinet status, but not elected cabinet officials. The governors of Georgia, Indiana, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, West Virginia and Wyoming do not have cabinet equivalents; in Connecticut, Florida and Mississippi all cabinet members are elected.

[2] Percentages may not add precisely to 100 because of rounding.

[3] Letters in parentheses following each state indicate political party of current governor.

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STATE	# WOMEN/TOTAL CABINET POSITIONS	% WOMEN IN CABINET	RANK AMONG STATES
ALABAMA	2/18	11.1	33
ALASKA	3/17	17.6	17
ARIZONA	7/20	35.0	4
ARKANSAS	4/29	13.8	28
CALIFORNIA	2/10	20.0	12
COLORADO	2/17	11.8	32
CONNECTICUT	NA	NA	NA
DELAWARE	2/18	11.1	33
FLORIDA	NA	NA	NA
GEORGIA	NA	NA	NA
HAWAII	2/16	12.5	30
IDAHO	1/19	5.3	39
ILLINOIS	7/38	18.4	16
INDIANA	NA	NA	NA
IOWA	3/18	16.7	19
KANSAS	2/13	15.4	24
KENTUCKY	4/18	22.2	11
LOUISIANA	6/14	42.9	1
MAINE	4/24	16.7	19
MARYLAND	4/13	30.8	6
MASSACHUSETTS	3/11	27.3	8
MICHIGAN	5/27	18.5	15
MINNESOTA	7/26	26.9	9
MISSISSIPPI	NA	NA	NA
MISSOURI	1/15	6.7	36
MONTANA	1/15	6.7	36
NEBRASKA	5/29	17.2	18
NEVADA	4/30	13.3	29
NEW HAMPSHIRE	NA	NA	NA
NEW JERSEY	6/21	28.6	7
NEW MEXICO	5/16	31.3	5
NEW YORK	12/77	15.4	24
NORTH CAROLINA	3/13	23.1	10
NORTH DAKOTA	3/18	16.7	19
OHIO	5/30	16.7	19
OKLAHOMA	1/15	6.7	36
OREGON	5/36	13.9	27
PENNSYLVANIA	3/24	12.5	30
RHODE ISLAND	NA	NA	NA
SOUTH CAROLINA	NA	NA	NA
SOUTH DAKOTA	4/21	19.0	14
TENNESSEE	4/25	16.0	23
TEXAS	NA	NA	NA
UTAH	2/25	8.0	35
VERMONT	2/5	40.0	2
VIRGINIA	7/18	38.9	3
WASHINGTON	4/20	20.0	12
WEST VIRGINIA	NA	NA	NA
WISCONSIN	4/26	15.4	24
WYOMING	NA	NA	NA
TOTAL	151/845	17.9	

NOTE: States with same percentages are given same rank.